

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

List of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:
receiving, at a first storage unit, an I/O command from a host;
generating an identifier that identifies a destination that is a second storage unit to which the I/O command is to be transmitted from the first storage unit;

augmenting the I/O command with the generated identifier at the first storage unit; and
transmitting the augmented I/O command, wherein the first storage unit is a first storage control unit, wherein the second storage unit is a second storage control unit, and wherein generating the identifier further comprises:

(i) associating with the identifier, a World Wide Node Name of the second storage control unit;

(ii) associating with the identifier, a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the second storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and

(iii) associating with the identifier, a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the second storage control unit.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at [[a]] the second storage unit,
wherein the second storage unit is associated with a second storage unit identifier;
determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and
executing the I/O command, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the transmitted augmented I/O command at [[a]] the second storage unit, wherein the second storage unit is associated with a second storage unit identifier; determining, at the second storage unit, if the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is the same as the second storage unit identifier; and generating a failure, at the second storage unit, in response to determining that the generated identifier that augmented the I/O command is not the same as the second storage unit identifier.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first storage unit is a primary storage control unit and the destination is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the primary storage control unit is coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

7. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

receiving, at a storage unit, an I/O command, wherein the storage unit is associated with a storage unit identifier;

determining, at the storage unit, whether the I/O command is associated with an identifier that identifies a destination for which the I/O command is intended, wherein the I/O command has been augmented with the identifier by another storage unit from which the storage unit received the I/O command; and

determining, at the storage unit, whether the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier, in response to determining that the identifier associated with the I/O command

identifies the destination for which the I/O command is intended, wherein the storage unit is a secondary storage control unit, and wherein the identifier further comprises:

- (i) a World Wide Node Name of the secondary storage control unit;
- (ii) a World Wide Port Name of a port of a fibre channel adapter coupled to the secondary storage control unit, wherein the port is used for communications; and a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the secondary storage control unit; and
- (iii) a storage subsystem identification of a storage subsystem coupled to the secondary storage control unit.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
executing the I/O command, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is the same as the storage unit identifier.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
generating a failure, at the storage unit, in response to determining that the identifier is not the same as the as the storage unit identifier.

10 – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[10]] 7, wherein the another storage unit is a first storage unit, wherein the secondary storage control unit is a second storage unit, wherein the first storage unit is coupled to a first fibre channel adapter, wherein the destination is coupled to a second fibre channel adapter, wherein the first fibre channel adapter is coupled to the second fibre channel adapter via a switched fabric, and wherein the switched fabric includes a plurality of switches, and wherein a destination address of the second storage unit returned by a switch of the plurality of switches to the first storage unit is not unique.

32 – 33. (Canceled)